

*FACULTY AND
GUEST ARTIST RECITAL*

KATHLEEN WINKLER, violin

CHO-LIANG LIN, violin

JAMES DUNHAM, viola

BRINTON AVERIL SMITH, cello

EVELYN CHEN, piano (guest)

Thursday, March 13, 2008

8:00 p.m.

Lillian H. Duncan Recital Hall

RICE UNIVERSITY

the
Shepherd
School
of Music

PROGRAM

Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 49

Felix Mendelssohn

(1809-1847)

Molto allegro ed agitato

Andante con moto tranquillo

Scherzo: Leggiero e vivace

Finale: Allegro assai appassionato

Evelyn Chen, piano

Kathleen Winkler, violin

Brinton Averil Smith, cello

INTERMISSION

Piano Quintet in F Minor, Op. 34

Johannes Brahms

(1833-1897)

Allegro non troppo

Andante, un poco adagio

Scherzo: Allegro

Finale: Poco sostenuto –

Allegro non troppo – Presto non troppo

Evelyn Chen, piano

Cho-Liang Lin, violin

Kathleen Winkler, violin

James Dunham, viola

Brinton Averil Smith, cello

The reverberative acoustics of Duncan Recital Hall magnify the slightest sound made by the audience. Your care and courtesy will be appreciated. The taking of photographs and use of recording equipment are prohibited.

BIOGRAPHIES

CHO-LIANG LIN is a violinist whose career has spanned the globe for twenty-five years. Since his debut at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival with David Zinman at the age of nineteen, he has appeared with virtually every major orchestra in the world including the Boston Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, London Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, and New York Philharmonic. He has over twenty recordings to his credit ranging from the concertos of Mozart, Mendelssohn, Bruch, and Sibelius to Prokofiev and Stravinsky, as well as chamber music works of Schubert, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, and Ravel on Sony Classical. His recording partners include Yo-Yo Ma, Wynton Marsalis, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Leonard Slatkin, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Isaac Stern. His recordings have won England's Gramophone Record of the Year as well as Grammy nominations in the United States. He is an advocate for new music by commissioning and presenting premiere performances and recordings of works by Chen Yi, Philip Glass, Aaron Jay Kernis, Christopher Rouse, Bright Sheng, Tan Dun, George Tsontakis, and many more. Mr. Lin is a versatile musician, equally at home as a soloist with orchestra as well as in recital and in chamber music.

In 1997 he founded the Taipei International Music Festival. It became the largest classical music event in the history of Taiwan. He is also artistic director of La Jolla SummerFest in California. Born in Taiwan in 1960, Cho-Liang Lin began violin studies at the age of five. In 1972 he moved to Sydney, Australia, to further his musical training. His early teachers included Sylvia Lee and Robert Pikler. At the age of fifteen, he began six years of study with Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School in New York. While a college freshman, he won first prize at the Queen Sophia International Violin Competition in Spain, and that launched his concert career. In 1981, Zubin Mehta invited him to perform the Mendelssohn concerto with the New York Philharmonic which was followed by an Asian tour with the same conductor and ensemble.

At the age of twenty-two, Mr. Lin recorded his first album with Neville Marriner for CBS Masterworks, now Sony Classical. In 1981 Mr. Lin was appointed to the faculty at the Juilliard School where his students have won top prizes in international competitions and have launched their own solo careers. He joined The Shepherd School of Music as Professor of Violin in 2006.

The artistry of *KATHLEEN WINKLER* has earned her the plaudits of critics and audiences alike worldwide since her solo debut at the age of seventeen with the Philadelphia Orchestra. She has been heard with such orchestras as the Detroit Symphony (with which she has toured on many occasions), the Pittsburgh Symphony, the Danish Radio Orchestra, the Odense Byorkester, the Polish Slaska Philharmonic, the Grand Rapids Symphony, the Savannah Symphony, and the Phoenix Symphony, to name a few. She has toured throughout the United States and Canada as well as having performed in Sweden, Poland, Germany, Spain, and the Canary Islands. The recipient of numerous awards, Ms. Winkler took first prize in the First International Carl Nielsen Violin Competition which led to her sponsored debuts in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, the Kennedy Center and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and numerous radio broadcast performances on the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the International Voice of America.

Through a national search, Kathleen Winkler was selected by the United States Information Agency to represent the U.S. as an Artistic Ambassador on concert tours throughout the world. Her initial tour took her to Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea, and New Zealand. Another extended tour saw Ms. Winkler's performances representing our country in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Nigeria, and Kenya. A third tour took Ms. Winkler throughout Australia and South America.

The Philadelphia-born artist attended Indiana University where she received her Bachelor of Music degree, magna cum laude, as well as the coveted Performer's Certificate. She also attended the University of Michigan, where she received her Master of Music degree, summa cum laude. Formerly on the faculty of the Oberlin Conservatory, she is currently Professor of Violin at The Shepherd School of Music and a recipient of Rice University's Julia Miles Chance Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Additionally, she is a visiting professor at the Middle School of the Beijing Central Conservatory in China. During the summer she is on the artist faculty of the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, where she holds the Léni Fé-Bland Chair in Violin.

Ms. Winkler is married to Timothy Pitts, Principal Bassist of the Houston Symphony Orchestra, and is mother to ten-year-old Nina and seven-year-old Kiri.

Violist JAMES DUNHAM is active as a recitalist and guest artist. He has collaborated with such renowned artists as Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Lynn Harrell, Cho-Liang Lin and members of the American, Cassatt, Guarneri, Juilliard, Takács, Tokyo, and Ying Quartets. An advocate of new music, he recently premiered and recorded two works by Libby Larsen – her *Viola Sonata* (2001) and *Sifting Through the Ruins* (2005) for viola, mezzo-soprano (Susanne Mentzer) and piano, due for release by Naxos. Summers are spent at festivals including Sarasota, Amelia Island (Florida), Aspen, La Jolla Chamber Music Festival, and le Domaine Forget (Quebec), with past participation in Festival der Zukunft (Ernen, Switzerland), the San Diego Mainly Mozart Festival, and three summers at the Marlboro Music Festival. Highlights of recent seasons included a pair of concerts with the Takács Quartet in Carnegie Hall, concerts in Reykjavik, Iceland, returns to San Diego, San Francisco, New York, and Vermont, as well as regular engagements with Houston Friends of Music and Da Camera of Houston. Other recording projects have included *Glyph* by Judith Shatin for solo viola with string quartet and piano, and the recently released Telarc recording of Tchaikovsky *Souvenir de Florence* with the Ying Quartet and cellist Paul Katz.

Violist of the 1996 Grammy Award-winning Cleveland Quartet for eight years, James Dunham performed throughout North America, Europe, the Far East, and the Soviet Union. Founding violist of the Naumburg Award winning Sequoia String Quartet, he formerly taught at California Institute of the Arts, the Eastman School of Music, and the New England Conservatory, where he also chaired the String Department and received the Louis & Adrienne Krasner Teaching Excellence Award. Mr. Dunham is Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at The Shepherd School of Music where he directs the Master of Music in String Quartet program.

Hailed by New York Newsday for "...extraordinary musicianship ... forceful, sophisticated and entirely in the spirit of the music," American cellist BRINTON AVERIL SMITH has performed at Alice Tully Hall in Lincoln Center, Carnegie Recital Hall, the Marlboro Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival, the Banff Centre for the Arts, and in recital throughout the United States. Mr. Smith's recent performances include appearances with orchestras in Detroit, San Diego, New Jersey, Houston, Las Vegas, San Jose, Fort Worth, Tucson, Phoenix, and Auckland, New Zealand, and include the Brahms Double Concerto with violinist Gil Shaham.

Mr. Smith recorded the Miklós Rózsa **Cello Concerto** with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra for a Koch International Classics release that received widespread international critical acclaim. The annual Gramophone awards issue praised Smith as a "hugely eloquent, impassioned soloist," and continued, "The sheer bravura of Smith's reading is infectious." His recent recording of Fauré's **Piano Trio** and **Après un Rêve** with Gil Shaham for Vanguard Classics was chosen as Gramophone magazine's Disc of the Month and was recently selected as one of BBC Music magazine's best albums of the year. Mr. Smith will also be featured on an upcoming Koch release of the chamber music of composer Steven Gerber with violinists Kurt Nikkanen and Cho-Liang Lin.

Mr. Smith joined the Houston Symphony in the fall of 2005 as their new principal cellist. Prior to this, he was a member of the New York Philharmonic, where he was the first musician appointed by music director Lorin Maazel, and was also previously the principal cellist of the San Diego and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestras. Mr. Smith is currently a member of the faculty at The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and has also served as a professor at Teachers College, Columbia University.

An active chamber musician, Smith has collaborated with members of the Beaux Arts Trio and the Guarneri, Emerson, Juilliard, Cleveland, and Berg Quartets, and in performances with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the New York Philharmonic Chamber Series, and, with violinist Gil Shaham, at the Aspen Music Festival winter recital series and the Linton series in Cincinnati. Mr. Smith was a prize winner of the Leonard Rose International Cello Competition and several consecutive Juilliard and Aspen Music Festival concerto competitions. While at Juilliard, he received the Melini Award for excellence in performance and was invited to perform at the American Cello Congress. His performances have been broadcast on CBS Sunday Morning and on radio throughout the United States on NPR's Performance Today and in New Zealand, South Africa, and Germany.

Brinton Averil Smith began his musical studies at age five. At age ten he was admitted to Arizona State University, where he took courses in mathematics and German and, by age seventeen, completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics. While a scholarship student of Eleonore Schoenfeld at the University of Southern California, he was also a teaching assistant in the mathematics department, and completed work for an Master of Arts degree in mathematics at age nineteen. He subsequently relocated to New York to study with cellist Zara Nelsova at The Juilliard School, where he received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree, writing on the playing of Emanuel Feuermann. Mr. Smith lives in Houston with his wife, the pianist Evelyn Chen, their daughter, Calista, and their Sheltie, Grisha.

The New York Times hailed EVELYN CHEN as "a pianist to watch," praising her "brilliant technique, warm, clear tone, and exacting musical intelligence." Ms. Chen's recent engagements have included performances on five continents at venues including Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, the Dorothy Chandler Pavil

ion, *Wolf Trap*, the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the National Concert Hall in Taipei, the Central Conservatory Concert Hall in Beijing, the Cultural Center of Hong Kong, and the Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow.

A Steinway Artist, Ms. Chen has performed with numerous orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the National Symphony Orchestra (upon Mstislav Rostropovich's recommendation), the Philharmonia Orchestra of London, the New Zealand Symphony, the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, the State Symphony Orchestra of Mexico, and the San Diego Symphony, and has collaborated with renowned conductors including Riccardo Muti, Leonard Slatkin, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, Zdeněk Mácal, Joseph Silverstein, Henry Mazer, Alberto Bolet, Enrique Bátiz, and JoAnn Falletta.

Ms. Chen's recent recordings have received international critical acclaim. Her recording of Rachmaninoff's **Piano Concerto No. 2** and **Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini** with Leonard Slatkin and the Philharmonia Orchestra of London on BMG was among the top ten best-selling classical recordings in England. Ms. Chen's performance was praised by *Fanfare* magazine as "eminently musical, particularly sensitive to Rachmaninoff's intimacies." *Fanfare* further commended Ms. Chen's recording of Miklós Rózsa's **Piano Concerto** with James Sedares and the New Zealand Symphony on Koch International, stating "it would be hard to imagine a performance more in tune with the music's dynamism than the one turned in by Evelyn Chen, who wonderfully communicates a kind of virtuoso thrill while also capturing every one of the work's Protean changes of mood." *Gramophone* magazine also marveled that "Evelyn Chen is a dazzlingly secure, marvelously sympathetic exponent that Rózsa fans will rightly welcome with open arms."

Ms. Chen has been featured on the CBS Evening News, and her performances have been broadcast by National Public Radio affiliates WGBH (Boston), WQXR (New York), WNYC (New York), WNCN (New York), WFMT (Chicago), and WGTS (Washington, D.C.), as well as throughout Taiwan and Great Britain (Classic FM). She has collaborated in chamber music with violinist Cho-Liang Lin, cellist Leslie Parnas, and pianist Charles Wadsworth, as well as with members of the New York Philharmonic. While touring Asia as soloist with the Harvard Orchestra, Ms. Chen performed before prominent dignitaries including the Princess of Thailand and the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

A winner of several international competitions, Ms. Chen is the recipient of the 1995 Petschek Award, which awarded her a fully sponsored New York debut recital at Alice Tully Hall. She is also the First Prize Winner of the 1993 Mieczyslaw Munz International Competition as well as the Grand Prize Winner of the 1984 Piano Guild International Recording Competition. As the youngest competitor at the age of fourteen, Ms. Chen captured First Prize in the 1981 Bach International Competition in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Chen received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Juilliard School, a Master of Music degree from the New England Conservatory, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in composition magna cum laude from Harvard University. Her teachers include pianists Russell Sherman, Constance Keene, Earle Voorhies, and Jerome Lowenthal, and composers Leon Kirchner and David Lewin. She is currently an Associate Professor of Piano at Teachers College, Columbia University, in New York City.



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